



*How like a winter hath my absence been
From thee, the pleasure of the fleeting year!
What freezings have I felt, what dark days seen!
What old December's bareness everywhere!*
- William Shakespeare-

Hello everyone,

Here is a brief report

We are still slowly building up our **International Student Graduate Network**. We are still only at 10 confirmed positions but you have had several other students reach out to me to say that their respective departments are in the process of creating the position. I am hoping to have a group of at least 20 in place by April. Please email me if you need any additional information (international@sgps.ca).

The **International Student Working Group** has secured a meeting with Principal Deane on the 10th of January to discuss their campaign and work since being formed. They have invited me to join the meeting and I will update you thereafter. They will have their December meet up on the 11th of December from 5-7pm at the Ban Righ Centre.

On the 2nd of December we completed our second **International research Seminar at QUIC**. There were 3 presenters and 12 attendees. We had a fantastic conversation about Ghana, renewable energy, elderly care, and religion in the country. Next month our International research seminar will be on Turkey. It will be on the 20th of January from 5-7pm. I hope to see you there! A big thank you to QUIC for partnering with us on these.

Following the **QUIC Advisory Meeting** on the 11th of November, the Director has asked if we could have monthly meetings to ensure that we are aware of each other's work and to deepen the relationship between the SGPS and QUIC. I will be meeting the Director, Sultan Almajil, on the 3rd of December and will let you know if there are any updates orally in the meeting. On Friday's QUIC is running Take a Break events from 12:30 to 15:00 and on the 27th of December they will host a holiday Meet-Up Downtown. Please visit their [Facebook Page](#) or details.

The Fourth Episode of **Beyond Canada** is up. I talk to Siobhan Speiran about her work with monkeys in Costa Rican Sanctuaries. If you have any ideas of people who have done or are doing international research or collaborations who might want to be featured, please ask them to contact me (international@sgps.ca). Enjoy listening!

Planning for the **Beyond Boundaries Conference** is going well. Forty-Eight presenters are currently registering for the conference. We received a low number of applications for poster presenters (we are only looking for 10 and have 3) so we are looking at strategies for how we can improve this. We are currently arranging the catering, social events, and workshops, and key note speakers for the conference. By January we will be able to confirm whether we have space for attendees. Thank you to the commissioners and the volunteers for all their work with this

To close, I hope you have a lovely holiday season and enjoy some rest.

Kindest regards,
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